

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Notice LD-539

For: State and County Offices

**APSS Modifications to Inhibit the Lamb Meat Adjustment
Assistance Program (LMAAP) and Issuing Payments in Real-time**

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

LMAAP will end on **August 15, 2003**.

APSS has always allowed for processing LMAAP applications and payments **in real-time**, and currently allows real-time applications and payments for:

- ewe lambs
feeder lambs
- slaughter lambs.

Due to declining funds:

- FMD advised that Year 4 LMAAP payment processing will become subject to eFunds Control
- some APSS software options for LMAAP must be “inhibited” to stop the processing of LMAAP payments until further notice.

B Purpose

This notice:

- informs State and County Offices that the LMAAP software will be inhibited to allow FSA to prorate payments by a National factor to reduce the expected payments to be made to the amount of funds available until all the funds are expended

Note: Once inhibited, LMAAP software will be **temporarily** disabled for processing overpayments/underpayments for further programming of underpayment software. However, PSD intends to have this process reactivated as soon as possible.

- obsoletes Notice LD-538 to change the date in subparagraph 4 A from June 13 to June 6.

Disposal Date	Distribution
May 1, 2004	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

2 Preparation to Inhibit APSS Software

A Software Inhibition

APSS software that allows real-time LMAAP payments and related transactions will be inhibited at COB on **June 6, 2003**. County Offices will have approximately 1 week from the date of this notice to process approved Year 4 LMAAP applications in APSS.

Important: After COB June 6, 2003, County Offices will **not** be able to process LMAAP applications in APSS until after eFunds have been allocated to applicable County Offices, see subparagraph 4 E.

B Accepting LMAAP Applications

After the software is inhibited according to subparagraph A, County Offices shall continue accepting LMAAP applications for program Year 4 on FSA-383 until the Year 4 application deadline on **August 15, 2003**.

3 Sheep and Lamb Producer Notification

A Notifying Sheep and Lamb Producers

County Offices shall ensure that sheep and lamb producers are informed of the following:

- the Year 4 marketing period ends on **July 31, 2003**
- LMAAP applications for Year 4 must be received by COB **August 15, 2003**
- real-time payments and related transactions will be temporarily suspended at COB **June 6, 2003**
- applications will continue to be accepted by County Offices until the Year 4 deadline
- payments will tentatively resume in September 2003 after National factored rates for each type of payment have been determined based on the remaining LMAAP funds available, and after applicable funds have been allocated to County Offices for monitoring by eFunds Control as determined by LMAAP Activity Reports, see paragraph 4.

B Methods of Notification

County Offices shall notify LMAAP participants of the information provided in subparagraph A through the following:

- over the counter discussion
- newsletters
- other methods of communication, as applicable.

4 LMAAP Activity Reports

A County Office Responsibility

LMAAP activity reports from State and County FSA Offices are necessary to prorate remaining funds available for LMAAP. Each County Office is responsible for the following:

- compiling a report of Year 4 LMAAP payments that need to be issued based on applications received between June 6, 2003, and August 15, 2003, which is the period of time when the software is inhibited and the Year 4 application deadline
- submitting the report to the State Office.
- ensuring that all Year 4 LMAAP transactions have been processed and transmitted so that all data can be recorded for later allocation of eFunds Control.

Note: Negative reports are required.

B State Office Responsibility

Each State Office is responsible for:

- compiling the information received from the County Office reports
- submitting the State Office report to the National Office by either of the following:
 - e-mail to **Danielle_Cooke@wdc.fsa.usda.gov**
 - FAX to 202-690-3307.

Note: Negative reports are required.

4 LMAAP Activity Reports (Continued)

C Report Information

Each County Office report submitted to the State Office and subsequent reports submitted to the National Office must contain the total number of the following:

- applications
- qualifying lambs for each payment type:
 - ewe
 - feeder
 - slaughter
- dollar amount needed to pay application at current payment rates.

Submit reports using the following format.

	Number of Applications	Number of Qualifying Lambs for Each Type of Payment							
		Feeder Lambs		Slaughter Lambs marketed before 5/31/03		Slaughter Lambs marketed between 6/1/03 - 7/31/03		Ewe Lambs	
Totals									
Total funds needed at current rate		\$3		\$5		\$8		\$18	

D Report Deadlines

County Offices must submit the requested reports to the State Office by COB **August 29, 2003.**

State Offices must submit the requested report to the PSD National Office by COB **September 12, 2003.**

E Payment Process

After all State reports have been received by the National Office and applicable factored payment rates have been determined from available LMAAP funds, an LD notice will be issued with further instructions regarding the payment rates and further processing of LMAAP Year 4 payments. APSS will be reactivated for LMAAP at that time and processing instructions will be provided.